



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

MANZ et al

Atty. Ref.: 550-308

Serial No. 10/046,564

Group: 1723

Filed: January 16, 2002

Examiner: E. Therborn

For: FLUID TRANSPORT APPARATUS AND METHOD

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October 20, 2003

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

As suggested by 37 C.F.R. 1.97, the undersigned attorney brings to the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office the reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, a copy of which is enclosed. This is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no better prior art exists, or that a reference is relevant merely because cited.

The Examiner is requested to initial the attached form PTO-1449 and to return a copy of the initialed document to the undersigned as an indication that the attached references have been considered and made of record.

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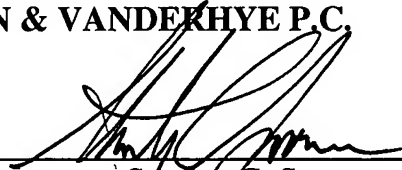
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Pursuant to Rule 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c), a fee of \$180.00 as specified in Rule 17(p) is attached. If there is any shortage in the fee, please charge the deposit account of Nixon & Vanderhye, Account No. 14-1140.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

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(Use several sheets if necessary)

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent pages, etc.)

[illegible]

*Examiner

Date Considered

Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to application.